

AUSTRALIAN VETERINARY EMERGENCY PLAN

AUSVETPLAN

Summary Document

Version 3.1, 2008

AUSVETPLAN is a series of technical response plans that describe the proposed Australian approach to an emergency animal disease incident. The documents provide guidance based on sound analysis, linking policy, strategies, implementation, coordination and emergency-management plans.

Primary Industries Ministerial Council

This document forms part of:

AUSVETPLAN Edition 3

This summary will be reviewed regularly. Suggestions and recommendations for amendments should be forwarded to:

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DISEASE WATCH HOTLINE

1800 675 888

The Disease Watch Hotline is a toll-free telephone number that connects callers to the relevant state or territory officer to report concerns about any potential emergency disease situation. Anyone suspecting an emergency disease outbreak should use this number to get immediate advice and assistance.

Preface

The **Australian Veterinary Emergency Plan**, or AUSVETPLAN, is the national contingency planning framework for the management of animal disease emergencies in Australia. This **Summary Document** describes the components of AUSVETPLAN and outlines their functional relationships. These components are developed and agreed in advance to ensure that a response can be implemented with minimal delay and in a coordinated manner, including with regard to cost-sharing.

Authority for the development and maintenance of AUSVETPLAN rests with Animal Health Australia (AHA).

Edition 1 of AUSVETPLAN was approved in February 1991 by the then Australian Agricultural Council. Edition 2 was approved by the Agriculture and Resource Management Council of Australia and New Zealand (ARMCANZ) in January 1996. The *Government and Livestock Industry Cost Sharing Deed In Respect of Emergency Animal Disease Responses*, referred to as the EAD Response Agreement, was ratified in 2002.

Edition 3 Manuals are prepared by writing groups comprising experts from Australian national, state and territory governments and the livestock industries. Endorsement of a manual occurs at one of three levels, depending on whether the manual is new or whether the changes made to an existing manual are significant. Changes may be approved within AHA or may necessitate endorsement by the Animal Health Committee (AHC), and/or the Primary Industries Ministerial Council (PIMC).

Where in this manual text has been placed in square brackets [xxx], this indicates that that aspect of the manual remains contentious or is under development; such text is not part of the official manual. The issues will be worked on by experts and relevant text included at a future date.

Detailed instructions for the field implementation of AUSVETPLAN are contained in the disease strategies, operational procedures manuals, management manuals and wild animal manual. Industry-specific information is given in the relevant enterprise manuals. The full list of AUSVETPLAN manuals that may need to be accessed in an emergency is shown below.

In addition, *Exotic Diseases of Animals: A Field Guide for Australian Veterinarians* by WA Geering, AJ Forman and MJ Nunn, Australian Government Publishing Service, Canberra, 1995 (to be updated) is a source for some of the information about the aetiology, diagnosis and epidemiology of the disease.

AUSVETPLAN manuals¹

Disease strategies

Individual strategies for each of 30 diseases

Bee diseases and pests

Response policy briefs (for diseases not covered by individual manuals)

Operational procedures manuals

Decontamination

Destruction of animals

Disposal

Public relations

Valuation and compensation

Livestock welfare and management

Wild animal manual

Wild animal response strategy

Enterprise manuals

Artificial breeding centres

Dairy processing

Feedlots

Meat processing

Poultry industry

Saleyards and transport

Veterinary practices

Zoos

Management manuals

Control centres management
(Parts 1 and 2)

Animal Emergency Management

Information System

Laboratory preparedness

Summary document

¹ The complete series of AUSVETPLAN documents is available on the internet at: http://www.animalhealthaustralia.com.au/programs/eacp/ausvetplan_home.cfm

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1 National arrangements for the control of emergency animal diseases

1.1 Background

Australian agriculture benefits enormously from its freedom from the more devastating disease epidemics that plague livestock industries in other parts of the world. An exotic disease incursion or a serious outbreak of an emerging or endemic disease could cause serious production losses to livestock industries in this country, jeopardise exports of livestock and livestock products and/or have serious public health implications. It is therefore essential that effective contingency plans and competency-assessed, trained personnel are available to counter such diseases.

The Australian Veterinary Emergency Plan (AUSVETPLAN) is a coordinated national response plan for the management and wherever possible, eradication of exotic disease incursions and outbreaks of certain emerging or endemic animal diseases. The term 'emergency animal disease' (EAD) is used in this manual to collectively describe all these disease categories (see Glossary).

1.2 General policy

In most cases, where this is applicable and is considered to be cost-effective, the policy for control and eradication of an EAD will be stamping out. This would involve:

- quarantine and/or movement controls;
- destruction and disposal of infected and exposed animals;
- decontamination of infected premises;
- surveillance of susceptible animals; and
- restriction of the activities of certain enterprises.

These measures may be supplemented where necessary (or replaced when stamping out is not appropriate) by one or more of the following options:

- vaccination;
- vector or wild animal control; and
- animal treatment.

Infected and disease-free zones may be established to contain the disease agent and to protect Australia's export trade.

A major EAD control campaign is a complex operation requiring rapid mobilisation of resources and coordination of a diverse team of people and other resources, amounting to a whole-of-government response. The response requires input from all tiers of government and from a range of portfolios, and may need to address financial, social, economic, human and animal health, trade and recovery issues (see Section 1.6).

1.3 Legislation

In Australia, each state and territory has operational responsibility for the control and eradication of animal diseases, whether endemic or exotic, within its borders. Each state and territory therefore administers its own EAD control legislation, which is supported by emergency service arrangements. In all cases these provide adequate powers for all essential EAD eradication measures. The Australian Government has powers under the *Quarantine Act 1908* to support the states and territories where appropriate.

Appendix 2 lists the applicable legislation.

1.4 EAD response planning

The overall organisation of animal health in Australia is shown in Figure 1.

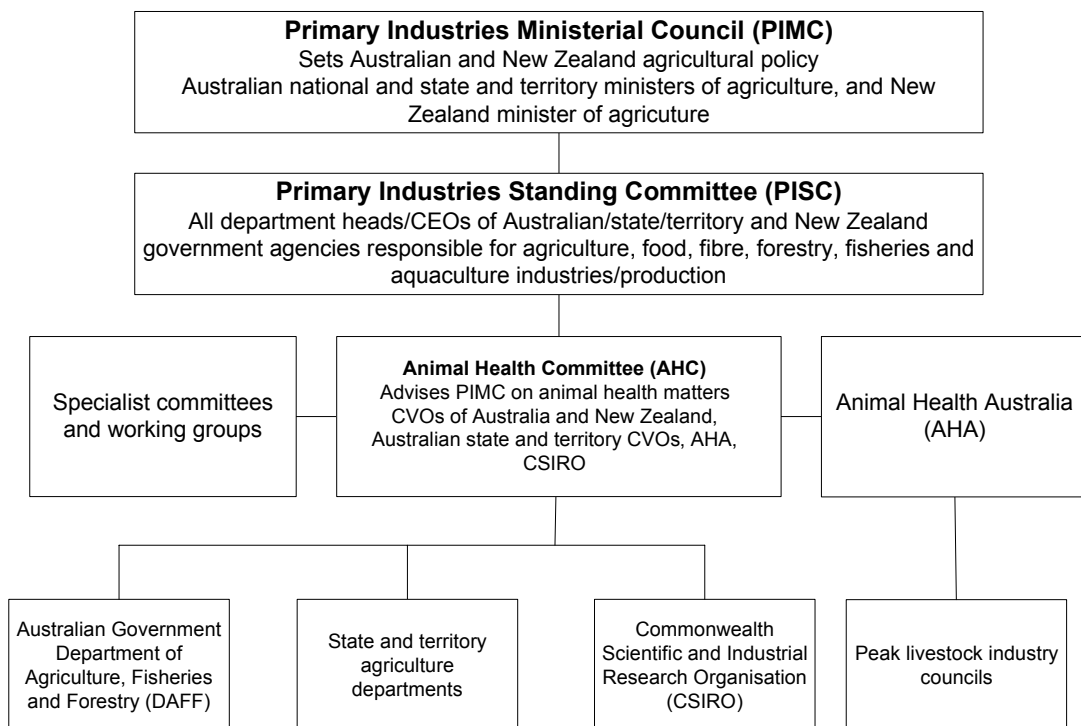


Figure 1 The organisation of animal health in Australia

Overall agricultural policy for Australia and New Zealand is set by the Primary Industries Ministerial Council (PIMC), which comprises state and territory primary industries ministers and the New Zealand Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, and is chaired by the Australian Government Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry. PIMC considers agricultural issues of national importance that may include animal health issues. The Primary Industries Standing Committee (PISC) is the single standing committee supporting PIMC and manages the work of PIMC. It comprises the chief executive officers of state and territory and Australian Government departments of agriculture (or equivalents), as well as a representative from New Zealand.

Animal Health Committee (AHC) is a subcommittee of PISC comprising the chief veterinary officers (CVOs) of the Australian Government, New Zealand Government and Australian states and territories, as well as representatives from the Australian Animal Health Laboratory (CSIRO) and Biosecurity Australia. The Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) and Animal Health Australia participate as observers. AHC's primary purpose is to provide scientific and technical advice on animal health issues to PISC. The Subcommittee on Emergency Animal Diseases (SCEAD) is a subcommittee of AHC with the role of developing, maintaining and reviewing national operating procedures and systems for use by all jurisdictions in disease control centre operations.

1.5 EAD response structure

Because AUSVETPLAN response plans have been agreed at the national level (including cost-sharing arrangements), the management system for EAD incidents can be streamlined to focus on the response to the incident. EAD responses are planned at three levels – national, state/territory and local – and involve animal health authorities, emergency management agencies and industry organisations.

The chief veterinary officer (CVO) of the state or territory in which the outbreak occurs is responsible for implementing disease control measures in accordance with relevant legislation (such as quarantine, animal tracing, and movement controls), and for ensuring that the Australian Animal Health Laboratory is urgently provided with samples for diagnosis.² The CVO will consult with the Consultative Committee on Emergency Animal Diseases (CCEAD) established for the response to seek agreement on recommendations to the EAD national management group (NMG) on the preferred national control strategy and, where appropriate, the need to invoke the EAD Response Agreement.

The CCEAD is the coordinating body providing the technical link between the Australian Government, the states and territory governments, and industry for decision making during animal health emergencies. Its roles are to assess the situation, endorse or seek modifications to the response plan drawn up by the CVO of the affected jurisdiction, and give technical and veterinary advice, as

² In aquatic animal health emergencies, state/territory directors of fisheries may substitute for, or collaborate with, the CVO on the committee. AQUAVETPLAN details preparedness and emergency response arrangements for aquatic animal disease incidents and is available at <http://www.daff.gov.au/aquavetplan>.

required. It also serves as the communication point for information flow to other states and territories. Animal health authorities liaise nationally through telephone conferences of the CCEAD.

The CCEAD is chaired by the Australian Chief Veterinary Officer, and consists of the following members:

- all state and territory CVOs (or their nominees);
- one representative nominated by the CSIRO Australian Animal Health Laboratory
- one representative of the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service, nominated by the Australian CVO;
- one representative of each affected livestock industry; and
- one representative from a pool of people nominated in advance by the industry parties collectively.

AHA also attends meetings of CCEAD. A representative from the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing (DoHA) may also attend, as required.

Where applicable, CCEAD advises the NMG on response policy – generally based on AUSVETPLAN and funding mechanisms for responses, particularly the EAD Response Agreement. It also advises PISC of significant developments during an EAD response, of the end of the emergency, and of any further action that should be undertaken after the emergency is over, such as further research and revision of contingency plans. The roles of the NMG are to decide on whether cost-sharing will be invoked (following advice from the CCEAD) and to manage the national policy and resourcing needs. The NMG is also convened for the specific outbreak; membership includes the chief executives of the Australian Government and state and territory agriculture departments, and representatives of the relevant livestock industry organisations

The responsible CVO will make ongoing decisions on follow-up disease control measures in consultation with the CCEAD. The detailed control measures adopted will be determined using the principles of control and eradication, along with epidemiological information about the outbreak, and the relevant policies as outlined in Section 3 of each disease strategy or response policy brief.

In an animal health emergency, a National Coordination Centre (NCC) is established in Canberra by the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF). The NCC implements the department's veterinary emergency plan (the DAFF Critical Incident Response Plan) and the Commonwealth Disaster Response Plan (COMDISPLAN) to support CCEAD, to handle international communications and relations and to liaise with other Australian Government departments. The NCC is responsible for national coordination of eradication measures and trade negotiations. In the event of a major EAD control campaign, the NCC will also coordinate resources from overseas through the International Veterinary Reserve.

At the national level, Animal Health Australia is responsible for developing and maintaining the currency of AUSVETPLAN. At the state/territory level, animal health authorities are responsible for developing operational plans consistent with AUSVETPLAN, within the legislative framework of the particular jurisdiction, for the implementation of the accepted national strategy. These plans are made in advance of, and in conjunction with, the relevant state emergency management organisation and support agencies, so a whole-of-government response occurs. Emergency operations support is in accordance with the state's disaster plan. If state resources are insufficient, the assistance of Emergency Management Australia is sought in accordance with the COMDISPLAN.

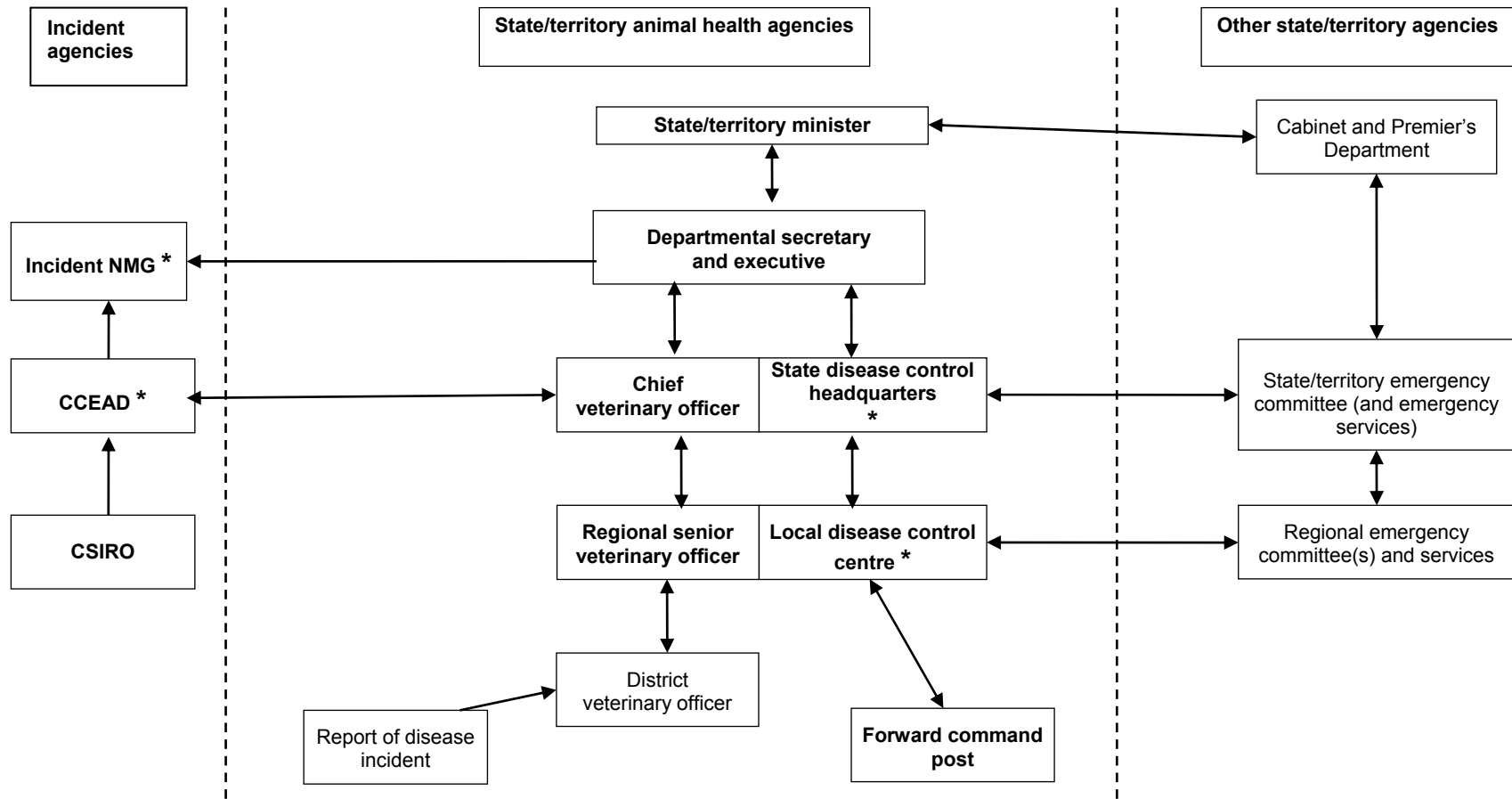
Field activities are controlled from a local disease control centre established in the vicinity of the outbreak.

Figure 2 shows model EAD response arrangements for most EAD outbreaks based in an individual state or territory. Figure 3 illustrates the coordination framework for a national whole-of-government response to a major or multistate EAD outbreak, such as foot-and-mouth disease.

At a local level, animal health officials in conjunction with local emergency management officials are responsible for developing plans to contain the initial outbreak of an EAD while the state control plans are being put into effect.

The national EAD Training Program assists jurisdictions and livestock industries to have people trained and assessed for competency to undertake prescribed AUSVETPLAN response roles (see Section 2.3.3).

For further information on the responsibilities of the state/territory disease control headquarters and local disease control centres, see the **Control Centres Management Manual**, Part 1.



CCEAD = Consultative Committee on Emergency Animal Diseases; NMG = national management group

* industry membership or representation

Figure 2 Model response arrangements in an EAD incident based in a single state/territory

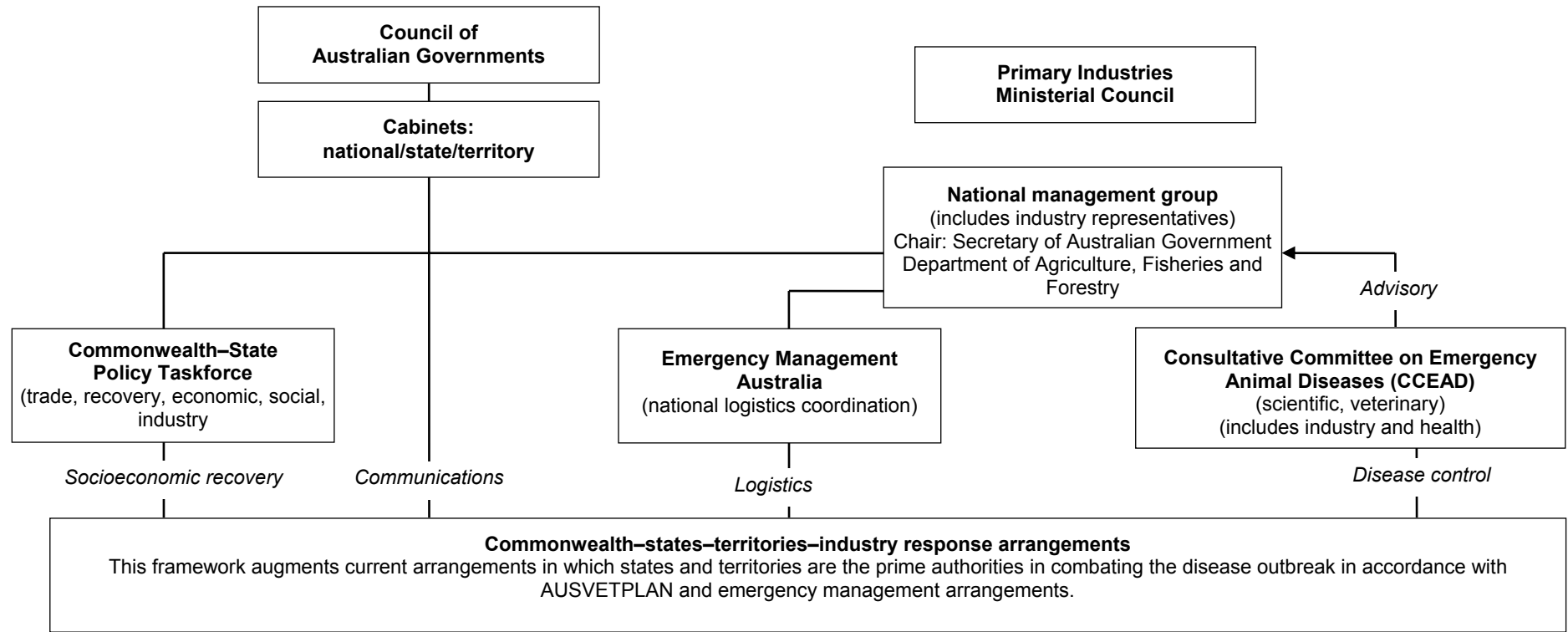


Figure 3 Whole-of-government response in a major or multistate EAD incident

1.6 EAD Response Agreement

The *Government and Livestock Industry Cost Sharing Deed in Respect of Emergency Animal Disease Responses* (EAD Response Agreement) provides certainty of funding for the initial response to an EAD incursion or outbreak through a partnership of the Australian Government, state and territory governments, and major livestock industry organisations. The agreement was signed by all parties in 2002 and specifies 63 diseases, which are classified into four categories (see Section 1.7). The sharing of costs among governments and industries depends on who benefits most from control, assessed by the likely impact of the specific EAD on human health, socioeconomic concerns, the environment and livestock production. Categorisation can be reviewed and new diseases added as circumstances change.

The emergency response is initially funded by the affected state or territory, with refunds made by the Australian Government according to the formula for the particular disease category set out in the EAD Response Agreement (see Section 1.7). The costs to each party are managed by applying an 'agreed limit' that ensures intensive examination of costs and benefits before further national resources are committed. Livestock industry contributions are obtained by means appropriate to the particular industry, usually through an agreed zero-based levy.

Although the EAD Response Agreement is mainly about cost sharing, it has many other important provisions for the conduct of an EAD response. In particular, it refers to the use of existing plans, such as AUSVETPLAN, and sets standards for the training of personnel, accounting and auditing. The agreement also refers to National Animal Health Performance Standards – benchmarks that are being developed across all sectors of the animal health system.

The Animal Health Australia website has further information on the EAD Response Agreement.³

1.7 Classification of EADs

Under the EAD Response Agreement (see Section 1.6), EADs are classified into four categories, as shown in Table 1. The category of the disease determines the arrangements for sharing the costs of the EAD response between governments and industry.

Table 1 shows all the EADs included in the EAD Response Agreement, by category.

³ <https://www.animalhealthaustralia.com.au/programs/eadp/eadra.cfm>

Table 1 Australian classification of emergency animal diseases (EADs)

EAD category	Definition	Cost sharing (%)	
		Govt	Industry
1	EADs that predominantly seriously affect human health and/or the environment (eg depletion of native fauna) but may only have minimal direct consequences for the livestock industries.	100	0
2	EADs that have the potential to cause major national socioeconomic consequences through very serious international trade losses, national market disruptions and very severe production losses in the livestock industries that are involved. Category 2 also includes diseases that may have slightly lower national socioeconomic consequences, but also have significant public health and/or environmental consequences.	80	20
3	EADs that have the potential to cause significant (but generally moderate) national socioeconomic consequences through international trade losses, market disruptions involving two or more states and severe production losses to affected industries, but have minimal or no effect on human health or the environment.	50	50
4	Diseases that are mainly production loss diseases. While there may be international trade losses and local market disruptions, these would not be so great as to significantly affect the national economy. The main beneficiaries of a successful emergency response to an outbreak of such a disease would be the affected livestock industries.	20	80

Table 2 Emergency animal diseases in Australia by EAD Response Agreement category

Category	Disease
1	Australian lyssaviruses (including bat lyssavirus)
	Equine encephalomyelitis (western, eastern and Venezuelan)
	Japanese encephalitis
	Nipah virus
	Rabies
2	Avian influenza (highly pathogenic H5/H7)
	Bovine spongiform encephalopathy
	Brucellosis (due to <i>Brucella abortus</i>)
	Brucellosis (due to <i>Brucella melitensis</i>)
	Foot-and-mouth disease
	Glanders
	Hendra virus (formerly equine morbillivirus)
	Peste des petits ruminants
	Rift Valley fever
	Rinderpest
	Screw-worm fly
	Sheep pox
	Tracheal mite ^a
	Tropilaelaps mite ^a
	Varroa mite (<i>Varroa destructor</i>) ^a
Vesicular stomatitis	
3	African horse sickness
	African swine fever
	Anthrax (major outbreaks)
	Avian influenza, highly pathogenic (not H5/H7) and low pathogenicity (H5/H7)
	Bluetongue (disease in sheep)
	Bovine tuberculosis ^b
	Classical swine fever
	Contagious bovine pleuropneumonia
	Encephalitides (tickborne)
	Lumpy skin disease
	Menangle virus (porcine paramyxovirus)
	Newcastle disease
	Scrapie
	Small hive beetle ^a
	Swine vesicular disease
	Trichinosis (trichinellosis)
Vesicular exanthema	

Category	Disease
4	Aujeszky's disease Borna disease Braula fly (except in Tasmania) ^a Contagious equine metritis Dourine East coast fever (theileriosis) Epizootic lymphangitis Equine babesiosis (equine piroplasmosis) Equine encephalosis Equine influenza Getah virus Haemorrhagic septicaemia Heartwater Infectious bursal disease, very virulent Jembrana disease Maedi–visna Nairobi sheep disease Porcine reproductive and respiratory disease Potomac fever Pulmonary adenomatosis (ovine) Sheep scab Surra Swine influenza Teschen disease (enterovirus encephalomyelitis) Transmissible gastroenteritis Varroa mite (<i>Varroa jacobsoni</i>) ^a Wesselsbron disease

a The categorisation of bee diseases will be reviewed following the establishment by Plant Health Australia of an arrangement for cost sharing in respect of plant pests and diseases.

b (due to *Mycobacterium bovis*) after Tuberculosis Freedom Assurance Program (TFAP) is completed (provided that no other program in respect of bovine tuberculosis is introduced in its place)

Source: Government and Livestock Industry Cost Sharing Deed In Respect of Emergency Animal Disease Responses (EAD Response Agreement)

2 AUSVETPLAN

2.1 Purpose of AUSVETPLAN

The purpose of AUSVETPLAN is to ensure coherent operations and procedures among national, state and territory animal health authorities, and emergency management organisations in the management of an EAD incident by:

- providing policy and guidelines for the consistent management of an EAD incident by appropriately trained personnel;
- improving the technical validity of strategies to combat disease emergencies and improving deficiencies in technical knowledge;
- assisting in identifying research priorities;
- providing a focus for training; and
- providing guidelines for the development of standard operating procedures.

2.2 History of AUSVETPLAN

The development of national EAD control plans was first recommended by the Exotic Disease Sub-Committee (EDSC) in 1976. By 1979, when the EDSC was disbanded, most of the early model control plans had been written.

In the 1980s, in recognition that a more comprehensive system of national disease eradication planning was required, EAD eradication plans were linked with emergency management support plans at the state and national levels.

The EDSC was reconstituted in 1984 in order to more formally develop the links between animal health and emergency management authorities and to further refine national plans.

In January 1987, the adequacy of EAD legislation in Australia was reviewed by Professor Whalan. This was followed by a second consultancy to assist the Commonwealth, states and territories to develop a sound and consistent legislative basis for disease eradication in all Australian jurisdictions (the Kaney Report, November 1987).

Having prepared emergency-management support plans, in 1985 animal health authorities began to revise EAD eradication plans and operational procedures. The first edition of AUSVETPLAN was published in 1991. The second edition, published in 1996, refined the documents of the first edition and included additional disease strategies, enterprise manuals and training modules. This achievement involved close collaboration and consultation between government authorities, industry and specialists.

The Exotic Animal Disease Preparedness Consultative Council (EXANDIS) was established in 1990 as a statutory authority of the Australian Government with a five-year life, to provide a mechanism for industry consultation and advice to the federal minister on Australia's EAD preparedness. EXANDIS contributed significantly towards the costs of developing the second edition of AUSVETPLAN, including a series of high-quality training activities and awareness videos. The council was disbanded in July 1995.

In 1996, Animal Health Australia was established as a peak not-for-profit public company with the tasks of developing strategic policy in animal health, funding national programs, and dealing with national animal health matters requiring negotiation and resolution. Its membership is derived from the Australian national, state and territory governments and from industry.

Following a decision by Animal Health Committee, Animal Health Australia has managed AUSVETPLAN since 2001. In that year, a further revision to Edition 3 began. New disease strategies and other manuals (such as livestock management and welfare, and West Nile virus fever) are added as necessary.

2.3 AUSVETPLAN components

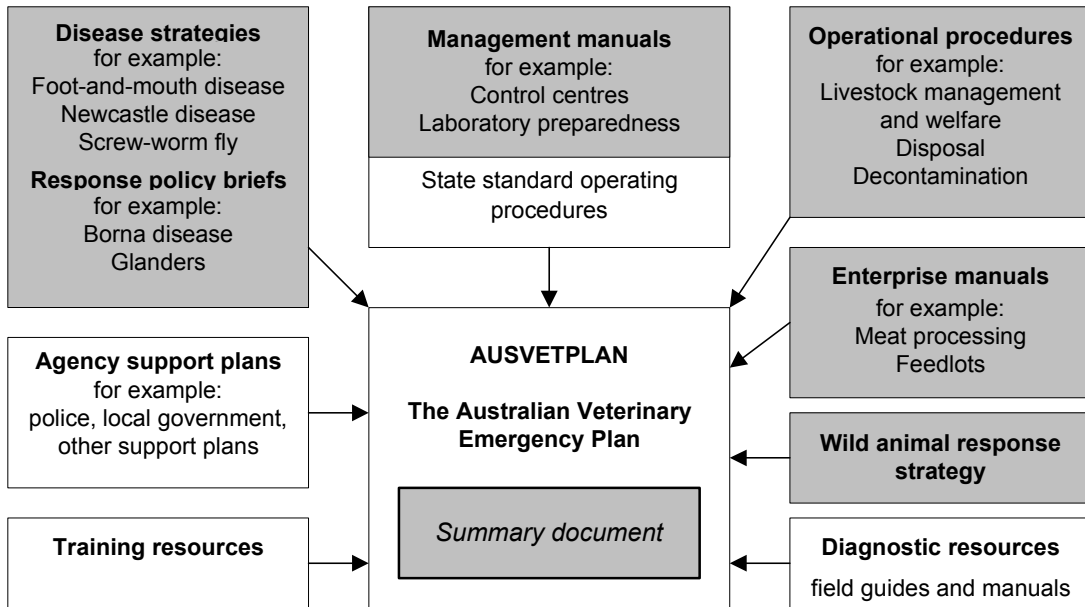
AUSVETPLAN is a series of manuals covering the following elements of EAD preparedness and management:

- this summary document;
- disease strategies for 35 of the EADs listed in the EAD Response Agreement;⁴
- response policy briefs for the remaining 27 EADs listed in the EAD Response Agreement (see Section 3.3.1);
- operational procedures manuals;
- enterprise manuals;
- management manuals; and
- wild animal manual.

Standard operating procedures for each government jurisdiction, agency support plans for the involvement of other areas of emergency management (eg police, local government), diagnostic resources and training materials also support the AUSVETPLAN core materials listed above.

Figure 4 shows the components of AUSVETPLAN and its related resources.

⁴ Bovine tuberculosis (due to *Mycobacterium bovis*) is addressed separately;



Note: Shaded boxes show core AUSVETPLAN components managed by Animal Health Australia

Figure 4 Components of AUSVETPLAN and related resources

2.3.1 Aim and contents of AUSVETPLAN documents

Disease strategies

Each AUSVETPLAN disease strategy is the authoritative reference to the Australian control/eradication policies for a particular EAD. It provides information about:

- the nature of the disease;
- the principles of its control and eradication;
- policies and strategies; and
- recommendations for control and management.

Each disease strategy provides sufficient information to allow authorities to make informed decisions about the policies and procedures needed to control an outbreak in Australia. The general structure of the disease strategies is shown in Table 3.

Table 3 Structure of disease strategy documents

1. Nature of the disease
<p>Aetiology and pathogenicity Susceptible species World distribution and occurrence in Australia Diagnostic criteria Resistance and immunity Epidemiology Social and economic effects Criteria for proof of freedom Manner and risk of introduction into Australia</p>
2. Principles of control and eradication
<p>Critical factors Options for control and eradication</p>
3. Policy and rationale
<p>Introduction Strategy for control and eradication Funding and compensation Strategy if the disease becomes established</p>
4. Recommended quarantine and movement controls
<p>Guidelines for classifying declared areas Movement controls Criteria for issuing permits</p>
Appendixes
<p>Procedures for surveillance and proof of freedom Procedures for vaccination (if applicable) A brief 'fact sheet' on the disease that is suitable for distribution (for example to the media) Other procedures or information, as applicable</p>
Glossary, Abbreviations References

Note: Content shown here as implemented in AUSVETPLAN Edition 3. Actual content may vary slightly between manuals to accommodate the specific nature of the different diseases.

Response policy briefs

Response policy briefs cover EADs that are subject to cost sharing between governments and livestock industries but are not covered by full disease strategies as they have a lower likelihood of entry and any consequences are likely to be less severe. Each brief provides sufficient information (about the nature of the disease, the principles of its control and control policies) for authorities to make informed decisions if an Australian outbreak occurs.

Operational procedures manuals

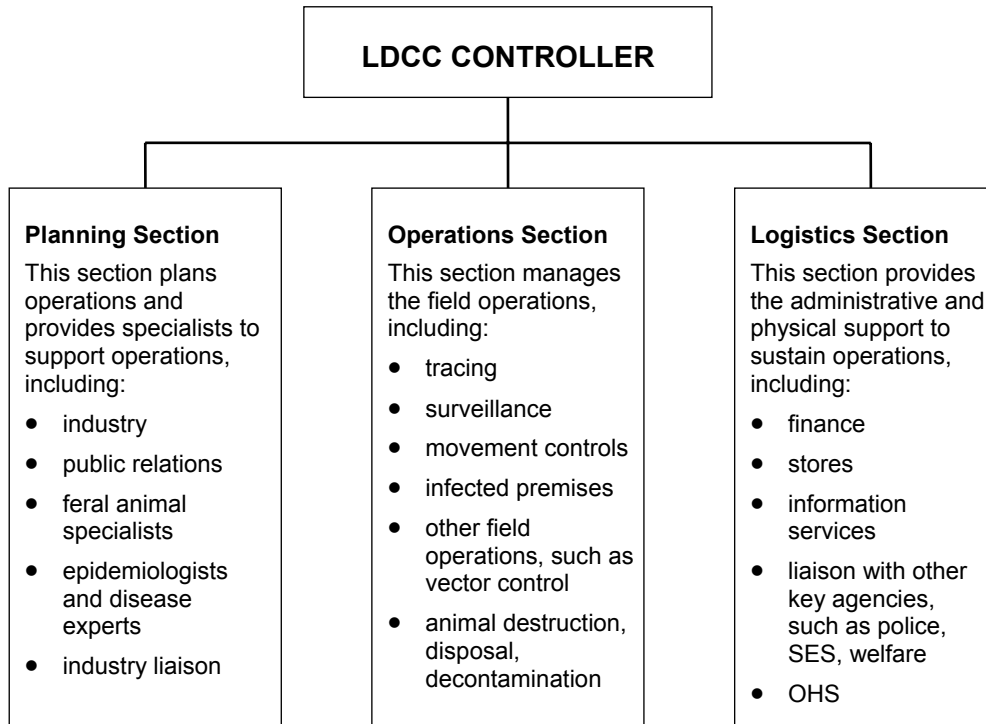
Operational procedures manuals describe in detail the recommended procedures for different aspects of the EAD response, such as the destruction of animals, animal disposal, decontamination of sites and public relations management.

Management manuals

The **Control Centres Management Manual** provides a management structure and an information flow system for handling an EAD at national, state/territory and local levels. Part 1 of the manual describes the operations of the national coordination centre, the state disease control headquarters (SDCHQ) and the local disease control centre (LDCC), the principles of the chain of responsibility, and the functions of sections. Part 2 of the manual details the roles and responsibilities of personnel.

Figure 5 shows the structure of the LDCC. The organisation of the SDCHQ is similar, with three main sections reporting to the director or the chief veterinary officer. Considerably more detail is provided in the Control Centres Management Manual, Part 1.

Other management manuals include the **Laboratory Preparedness Manual** and the **Animal Health Emergency Information System (ANEMIS) Manual**.



SES = state emergency services; OHS = occupational health and safety

Figure 5 Basic structure of the local disease control centre

Enterprise manuals

Enterprise manuals cover specific risk enterprises, such as abattoirs or artificial breeding centres, that pose special economic or disease eradication problems, or are important in the epidemiology or impact of the disease.

The purpose of enterprise manuals is to provide information and guidance to two target groups:

- government personnel involved in EAD preparedness who may be unfamiliar with the operations of the industry of which the enterprise is part – the manual provides an overview of the industry and guidance in appropriate policy and procedures; and
- industry personnel and veterinarians who need information on strategies that may be adopted to improve preparedness (in the form of contingency plans) and guidance on the operational procedures which may be applied to exclude, contain or eradicate an EAD.

Enterprise manuals are expected to be applicable when an enterprise is operating in the vicinity of an EAD incident, and when an EAD is detected in an animal on an enterprise.

Managers should include elements of this manual in the operational manuals for their enterprises.

The manuals should be read in association with other AUSVETPLAN documents, especially the **Disease Strategies** for specific diseases.

2.3.2 Other procedures and plans

Standard operating procedures

The standard operating procedures of national and state agencies— such as the DAFF Critical Incident Response Plan (the emergency plan of the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry – include detailed procedures and action plans for the responsible national, state and territory departments of agriculture or primary industries.

Agency support plans

Major EAD outbreaks require more resources than are available in national, state or territory government departments of agriculture or primary industry. Agency support plans are sub-plans of national, state or territory disaster plans and are developed and maintained through collaboration between animal health and emergency management agencies. They define the roles and responsibilities of lead and support agencies in each state/territory, such as the police and local government. The coordination framework outlined in Figures 2 and 3 is used for national decision-making (collective decisions involving all levels of government) where such decisions are necessary for an effective response.

2.3.3 Training and diagnostic resources

Emergency Animal Disease Training Program

The EAD Training Program has been developed to provide education and training for livestock producers, veterinarians and other personnel in the Australian livestock industries in preparation for performing their designated roles in responding to a disease incursion. It is a requirement of the EAD Response Agreement (see Section 1.6) that, where possible, jurisdictions use competency-assessed, trained staff to combat an EAD.

The training program aims to enhance EAD preparedness by:

- ensuring adequate numbers of personnel are trained and assessed as competent to perform response roles under AUSVETPLAN;
- providing a consistent approach to the measurement of competency through nationally recognised and endorsed competency standards; and
- developing a national team of trained personnel who are competent to perform their duties in any jurisdiction.

Materials suited to competency based training, including interactive computer-based learning modules (available online or via CD ROM), recognition kits, and workshop materials have been made available by AHA. Ten units of competency in emergency disease response have been developed and they have recently been submitted to the Australian National Training Authority for endorsement and subsequent inclusion in the Rural Training Package. A further ten units of competency will be imported into the Rural Training Package to provide a full suite of units for training and assessment of EAD response personnel. For further information, see

https://www.animalhealthaustralia.com.au/training/ead_training.cfm

National competency-based assessment is coordinated by Animal Health Australia through the EAD Preparedness Program which aims to ensure that the Australian animal health system is well prepared to handle an EAD incursion.

Diagnostic resources

The AUSVETPLAN manuals represent valuable training resources for diagnosis and response management. Other resources available to assist with the diagnosis of EADs include:

- **Exotic diseases field guide** – *Exotic Diseases of Animals: A Field Guide for Australian Veterinarians* (Geering et al 1995; to be updated).

This field guide provides concise information, mainly for field veterinarians and stock inspectors, that enables a diagnosis or presumptive diagnosis to be made for animal diseases exotic to Australia.

- **Screw-worm fly diagnostic manual** – *A Manual for the Diagnosis of Screw-Worm Fly* (Spradbery 2002).

This manual provides information for recognising the symptoms of screw-worm strike and distinguishing screw-worm fly from closely-related or associated fly species. The manual is well illustrated with photographs and line drawings, and has clearly laid out identification keys. The manual is for diagnostic purposes and training programs, and is written for field and research veterinarians, quarantine authorities and laboratories.

- **Foot-and-mouth disease** – *Foot and mouth disease - Ageing of Lesions* (DEFRA 2005).⁵

This booklet contains a series of photographs of the lesions of foot-and-mouth disease in livestock from the time of early appearance until regression and healing. It is intended as a handbook to help veterinarians in the field estimate the age of lesions.

- **Slides and videos** – *Recognising Exotic Livestock Diseases Series*, CSIRO (AAHL), 1991-93.

This series of exotic animal disease awareness programmes was produced for EXANDIS. It was a training program intended to alert veterinarians and other animal health professionals to the potential threat of exotic diseases. The series provided information on the epidemiology and both clinical and postmortem signs of disease. Enquiries regarding the availability of the original series and updates should be directed to CSIRO publishing.

- Internet resources

Centre for Food Security and Public Health, Iowa State University: see <http://www.cfsph.iastate.edu/DiseaseInfo/default.htm>

⁵ See: <http://www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/diseases/fmd/pdf/ageing-lesions.pdf>

United States Animal Health Association, Gray Book 1998: see http://www.vet.uga.edu/vpp/gray_book02/fad/index.php

See 'References' for further details of these resources.

2.4 AUSVETPLAN development and management

2.4.1 Animal Health Australia

Animal Health Australia (AHA) manages the development of the AUSVETPLAN manuals and their revision to ensure currency. AHA also promotes public awareness of AUSVETPLAN, and publishes the most current version of all AUSVETPLAN manuals on its website.⁶

The procedure for approving new or revised manuals is in accordance with the following groupings agreed by AHC:

- Type 1 - changes to an existing manual are clear matters of fact or minor operational procedures (authorization: AHA);
- Type 2 - more substantial changes to an existing manual, relating to significant technical issues or operational policies and procedures (authorization: AHC); and
- Type 3 - all new manuals, and significant policy changes to an existing manual that have financial implications for stakeholders (authorization: PIMC).

The process followed for development of an AUSVETPLAN manual is shown in Figure 6. AHA chairs the Technical Review Group (TRG), which is a group of technical experts representing the Australian Government and each state and territory agriculture department, and the CSIRO. The TRG reviews drafts of AUSVETPLAN manuals and makes appropriate amendments. An AHA project coordinator guides the document to completion and publication on the AHA website.

2.4.2 Australian Government

The Office of the Chief Veterinary Officer (OCVO) manages the development and maintenance of the response plans within DAFF (the DAFF Critical Incident Response Plan), and for the Australian Government agencies as a whole (COMDISPLAN). COMDISPLAN provides the framework for addressing state and territory requests for Australian Government physical assistance arising from any type of emergency.

DAFF is also responsible for reporting to international agencies, such as the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), and advising trading partners. The OCVO is represented on the TRG.

⁶ https://www.animalhealthaustralia.com.au/programs/programs_home.cfm

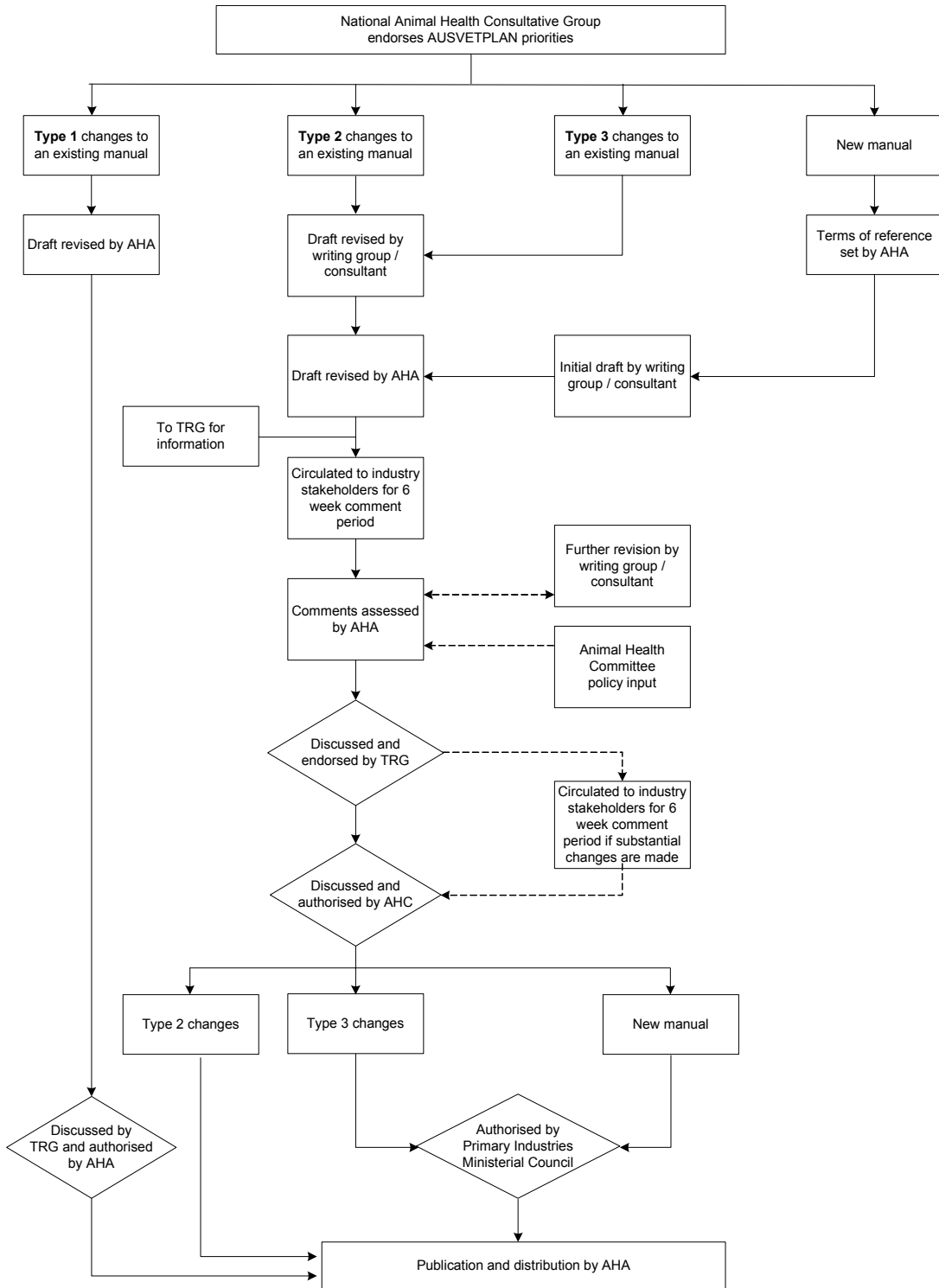
2.4.3 State/territory agriculture or primary industry departments

The animal health authorities of state/territory government departments provide expertise for the writing and reviewing of AUSVETPLAN documents, and the membership of the TRG. They are also responsible for developing state emergency operations procedures, job cards and resource lists to implement the agreed national strategies within the boundaries and legislative context of their jurisdiction.

The state emergency management and animal health authorities are jointly responsible for maintaining animal disease emergency support plans, and for conducting training programmes for personnel.

2.4.4 Industry

Industry provides expertise in the development of AUSVETPLAN manuals by providing appropriate personnel on writing teams, and through membership of the National Animal Health Consultative Group (NAHCG). As well, the relevant industry organisations are consulted during the development and revision of manuals.



AHA = Animal Health Australia; TRG = Technical Review Group

. *if substantial new changes are made

Figure 6 How an AUSVETPLAN document is developed and approved

Appendix 1 Information on the emergency animal diseases listed in the EAD Response Agreement

EAD^a	Type of agent	EAD RA category^b	OIE listed disease^c	Human health risk	Main animals likely to be affected in Australia	Occurrence in Australia	Main transmission pathways	Where to find further information
African horse sickness	Virus	3	Y	Nil	Horses, dogs	Never	Vector	Disease strategy
African swine fever	Virus	3	Y	Nil	Pigs	Never	Live animal, product, vector	Disease strategy
Anthrax	Bacterium	3 (major outbreaks)	Y	Yes	All mammals	Endemic in certain areas	Dead animal	Disease strategy
Aujeszky's disease	Virus	4	Y	Nil	Pigs, cattle, sheep, goats, dogs	Never	Live animal, semen, aerosol	Disease strategy
Australian lyssaviruses (including bat lyssavirus)	Virus	1	N	Yes	Flying foxes, insectivorous bats	Present	Live animal	Disease strategy
Avian influenza	Virus	2 or 3	Y	Strain dependent	Birds	HPAI in 1976, 1985, 1992, 1994, 1997	Live animal, fomites	Disease strategy

EAD RA = EAD Response Agreement (Government and Livestock Industry Cost Sharing Deed In Respect of Emergency Animal Disease Responses)

a Diseases shown in bold are those for which there is an individual AUSVETPLAN Disease Strategy. The remaining diseases are included in the Response Policy Briefs document

b Disease categories listed in the EAD Response Agreement

c Diseases listed by the OIE for reporting purposes

EAD ^a	Type of agent	EAD RA category ^b	OIE listed disease ^c	Human health risk	Main animals likely to be affected in Australia	Occurrence in Australia	Main transmission pathways	Where to find further information
Bluetongue (disease in sheep)	Virus	3 (sheep)	Y	Nil	Sheep, goats, cattle, camelids, deer, buffalo	Endemic in certain areas	Vector	Disease strategy
Borna disease	Virus	4	N	Unknown	Horses, sheep	Never, but unconfirmed isolation of agent	Live animal	Response Policy Briefs
Bovine spongiform encephalopathy	Prion	2	Y	Yes	Cattle	Never	Product	Disease strategy
Bovine tuberculosis (due to <i>Mycobacterium bovis</i>) after Tuberculosis Freedom Assurance Program (TFAP) is completed (provided that no other program in respect of bovine tuberculosis is introduced in its place)	Bacterium	3	Y	Yes	Cattle, buffalo, deer, camelids	Eradicated 1997	Live animal	Disease strategy
Brucellosis (due to <i>Brucella abortus</i>)	Bacterium	2	Y	Yes	Cattle, horses, sheep, goats	Eradicated 1992	Live animal, fomites	Disease strategy
Brucellosis (due to <i>Brucella melitensis</i>)	Bacterium	2	Y	Yes	Goats, sheep	Not present in domestic livestock	Live animal, product	Response Policy Briefs
Classical swine fever	Virus	3	Y	Nil	Pigs	Outbreaks in 1903, 1927, 1942, 1961	Live animal, product	Disease strategy
Contagious bovine pleuropneumonia	Mycoplasma	3	Y	Nil	Cattle	Eradicated 1973	Live animal	Response Policy Briefs
Contagious equine metritis	Bacterium	4	Y	Nil	Horses	Eradicated 1985	Fomites, semen	Disease strategy
Dourine	Protozoan	4	Y	Nil	Horses	Never	Live animal, semen	Response Policy Briefs

EAD^a	Type of agent	EAD RA category^b	OIE listed disease^c	Human health risk	Main animals likely to be affected in Australia	Occurrence in Australia	Main transmission pathways	Where to find further information
East coast fever (theileriosis)	Protozoan	4	Y	Nil	Cattle	Never	Live animal, vector	Response Policy Briefs
Encephalitides (tick-borne)	Virus	3	N	Rare	Sheep, cattle, horses, pigs, deer	Never	Live animal, vector	Response Policy Briefs
Epizootic lymphangitis	Fungus	4	N	Rare	Horses	Never	Live animal, vector	Response Policy Briefs
Equine babesiosis (equine piroplasmosis)	Protozoan	4	Y	Nil	Horses, donkeys	Last case in 1976	Live animal, fomites, vector	Response Policy Briefs
Equine encephalomyelitis (western, eastern and Venezuelan)	Virus	1	Y	Yes	Horses, donkeys, birds	Never	Live animal, vector	Response Policy Briefs
Equine encephalosis	Virus	4	N	Nil	Horses	Never	Live animal, vector	Response Policy Briefs
Equine influenza	Virus	4	Y	Rare	Horses	2007 outbreak eradicated	Live animal, aerosol	Disease strategy
Foot-and-mouth disease	Virus	2	Y	Rare	All cloven hooved animals	Eradicated 1872	Live animal, product, fomites, aerosol, semen	Disease strategy
Getah virus	Virus	4	N	Nil?	Horses	Unconfirmed isolation of agent in 1960s	Live animal, vector	Response Policy Briefs
Glanders	Bacterium	2	Y	Yes	Horses, donkeys	Last case in 1981	Live animal, fomites	Response Policy Briefs
Haemorrhagic septicaemia	Bacterium	4	Y	Nil	Cattle, buffalo	Never	Live animal, fomites	Response Policy Briefs

EAD^a	Type of agent	EAD RA category^b	OIE listed disease^c	Human health risk	Main animals likely to be affected in Australia	Occurrence in Australia	Main transmission pathways	Where to find further information
Heartwater	Rickettsia	4	Y	Nil	Cattle, sheep, goats, water buffalo	Never	Live animal, vector	Response Policy Briefs
Hendra virus infection (formerly equine morbillivirus)	Virus	2	N	Yes	Horses	Outbreaks in 1994, 1995, 1999, 2004	Live animal, product, aerosol	Response Policy Briefs
Infectious bursal disease (very virulent)	Virus	4	Y	Nil	Poultry	Very virulent strain not present	Live animal, product	Disease strategy
Japanese encephalitis	Virus	1	Y	Yes	Pigs, horses	Virus detected in Cape York in 1998 and sero-positive pigs detected on mainland	Vector	Disease strategy
Jembrana disease	Virus	4	N	Nil	Bali cattle	Never	Live animal, vector	Response Policy Briefs
Lumpy skin disease	Virus	3	Y	Nil	Cattle, buffalo	Never	Mechanical	Disease strategy
Maedi–visna	Virus	4	Y	Nil	Sheep, goats	Never	Live animal, aerosol	Response Policy Briefs
Menangle virus (porcine paramyxovirus)	Virus	3	N	Yes	Pigs, flying foxes	Outbreak in 1997	Live animal, fomites	Response Policy Briefs
Nairobi sheep disease	Virus	4	Y	Yes	Sheep, goats	Never	Vector	Response Policy Briefs

EAD^a	Type of agent	EAD RA category^b	OIE listed disease^c	Human health risk	Main animals likely to be affected in Australia	Occurrence in Australia	Main transmission pathways	Where to find further information
Newcastle disease	Virus	3	Y	Rare	Birds	Outbreaks in 1930, 1998, 2002	Live animal, aerosol	Disease strategy
Nipah virus encephalitis	Virus	1	Y	Yes	Pigs, flying foxes	Never	Live animal, fomites, aerosol	Response Policy Briefs
Ovine pulmonary adenomatosis	Virus	4	N	Nil	Sheep, goats	Never	Live animal, aerosol	Response Policy Briefs
Peste des petits ruminants	Virus	2	Y	Nil	Sheep, goats	Never	Live animal, aerosol, semen	Disease strategy
Porcine enterovirus encephalomyelitis (Teschen disease)	Virus	4	N	Nil	Pigs	Never	Live animal, product	Response Policy Briefs
Porcine respiratory and reproductive syndrome	Virus	4	Y	Nil	Pigs	Never	Live animal, product	Disease strategy
Potomac fever	Rickettsia	4	N	Nil	Horses	Never, but serological evidence of agent	Live animal, vector	Response Policy Briefs
Rabies	Virus	1	Y	Yes	All mammals	Eradicated 1867	Live animal	Disease strategy
Rift Valley fever	Virus	2	Y	Yes	Cattle, sheep, goats	Never	Live animal, vector	Disease strategy
Rinderpest	Virus	2	Y	Nil	Cattle, sheep, pigs	Outbreak in 1923	Live animal	Disease strategy
Scrapie	Prion	3	Y	Nil	Sheep, goats	Eradicated 1952	Live animal	Disease strategy
Screw-worm fly	Insect	2	Y	Yes	All mammals	No livestock involved in detections in 1988, 1992	Live animal as vector	Disease strategy

EAD^a	Type of agent	EAD RA category^b	OIE listed disease^c	Human health risk	Main animals likely to be affected in Australia	Occurrence in Australia	Main transmission pathways	Where to find further information
Sheep pox and goat pox	Virus	2	Y	Nil	Sheep, goats	Never	Live animal, mechanical	Disease strategy
Sheep scab	Mite	4	N	Nil	Sheep	Eradicated 1896	Live animal, product	Response Policy Briefs
Small hive beetle	Beetle	3	Y	Nil	Bees	Present in Queensland, NSW and Victoria	Live animal as vector	Disease strategy
Surra	Protozoan	4	Y	Nil	Horses, dogs, camelids, deer, donkeys, cattle	Never	Mechanical	Disease strategy
Swine influenza	Virus	4	N	Yes	Pigs	Neg serology, no outbreak	Live animal, aerosol	Response Policy Briefs
Swine vesicular disease	Virus	3	Y	Nil	Pigs	Never	Live animal, product, fomites	Disease strategy
Tracheal mite, tropilaelaps mite,	Mite	2	N	Nil	Bees	Never	Live animal as vector	Disease strategy
varroa mite,	Mite	2	Y			Never		
		2 or 4	Y			never on mainland but in Torres Strait		
Braula fly (except in Tasmania)	Insect	4	N			found in Tasmania only		
Transmissible gastroenteritis	Virus	4	Y	Nil	Pigs, dogs	Never	Live animal, fomites, aerosol	Disease strategy
Trichinosis (trichinellosis)	Helminth	3	Y	Yes	All mammals	Never	Product	Response Policy Briefs

EAD^a	Type of agent	EAD RA category^b	OIE listed disease^c	Human health risk	Main animals likely to be affected in Australia	Occurrence in Australia	Main transmission pathways	Where to find further information
Vesicular exanthema	Virus	3	N	Nil	Pigs	Never	Live animal, product	Disease strategy
Vesicular stomatitis	Virus	2	Y	Yes	Cattle, horses, pigs	Never	Live animal, vector	Disease strategy
Wesselsbron disease	Virus	4	N	Yes	Sheep, goats	Never	Live animal, vector	Response Policy Briefs
West Nile fever	Virus		Y	Yes	Horses	Never	Wild birds	Response Policy Briefs

EAD RA = EAD Response Agreement (Government and Livestock Industry Cost Sharing Deed In Respect of Emergency Animal Disease Responses)

a Diseases shown in bold are those for which there is an individual AUSVETPLAN Disease Strategy. The remaining diseases are included in the Response Policy Briefs document

b Disease categories listed in the EAD Response Agreement

c Diseases listed by the OIE for reporting purposes

Appendix 2 Legislation relating to emergency disease in Australia

Commonwealth	<i>Quarantine Act 1908</i>
Australian Capital Territory	<i>Animal Diseases Act 1993</i>
New South Wales	<i>Exotic Diseases of Animals Act 1991</i> <i>Exotic Diseases of Animals (General) Regulation 1998</i> <i>Stock Diseases Act 1923</i> <i>Stock Diseases (General Regulation) 1997</i> <i>Apiaries Act 1985</i> <i>Apiaries Regulation 1995</i> <i>State Emergency and Rescue Management Act 1989</i>
Northern Territory	<i>Stock Diseases Act 1954</i> <i>Exotic Diseases (Animals) Compensation Act 1981</i> <i>Disasters Act 1982</i>
Queensland	<i>Exotic Diseases in Animals Act 1981</i> <i>Exotic Diseases in Animals Regulation 1998</i> <i>Stock Act 1915 and Stock Regulation 1988</i> <i>Disaster Management Act 2003</i>
South Australia	<i>Livestock Act 1997 and Regulations</i> <i>Emergency Management Act 2004</i>
Tasmania	<i>Animal Health Act 1995</i> <i>Animal Health Regulations 2006</i> <i>Animal (Brands and Movements) Act 1984</i> <i>Animal (Brands and Movements) Regulations 2003</i> <i>Emergency Management Act 2006</i> <i>Criminal Code Act 1924</i>
Victoria	<i>Livestock Disease Control Act 1994 and Regulations</i> <i>Emergency Management Act 1986</i>
Western Australia	<i>Exotic Diseases of Animals Act 1993</i> <i>Stock Diseases (Regulations) Act 1968</i> <i>Enzootic Disease Regulations</i> <i>Exotic Diseases (Emergency Powers) Regulations</i> <i>Exotic Diseases (General) Regulations 1970</i> <i>Beekeepers Act 1968</i> <i>Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007</i>

Glossary

Animal byproducts	Products of animal origin that are not for consumption but are destined for industrial use (eg hides and skins, fur, wool, hair, feathers, hooves, bones, fertiliser).
Animal Health Committee	A subcommittee of the Primary Industries Standing Committee comprising the chief veterinary officers (CVOs) of Australia and New Zealand, and of Australian states and territories, as well as representatives of the Australian Animal Health Laboratory (CSIRO) and Biosecurity Australia (formerly called the Veterinary Committee). The Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service and Animal Health Australia participate as observers. The committee provides advice to PIMC on animal health matters, focusing on technical issues and regulatory policy. <i>See also</i> Primary Industries Ministerial Council, Primary Industries Standing Committee
ANEMIS	<i>Animal Health Emergency Information System</i> A record-based computer program designed to store and retrieve information about disease control activities carried out at a local disease control centre.
Animal products	Meat, meat products and other products of animal origin (eg eggs, milk) for human consumption or for use in animal feedstuff.
Australian Chief Veterinary Officer	The nominated senior veterinarian in the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry who manages international animal health commitments and the Australian Government's response to an animal disease outbreak. <i>See also</i> Chief veterinary officer
AUSVETPLAN	<i>Australian Veterinary Emergency Plan</i> . A series of technical response plans that describe the proposed Australian approach to an emergency animal disease incident. The documents provide guidance based on sound analysis, linking policy, strategies, implementation, coordination and emergency-management plans.
Chief veterinary officer (CVO)	The senior veterinarian of the animal health authority in each jurisdiction (national, state or territory) who has responsibility for animal disease control in that jurisdiction. <i>See also</i> Australian Chief Veterinary Officer

COMDISPLAN	The <i>Commonwealth Disaster Response Plan</i> . A framework for addressing state and territory requests for Australian Government assistance arising from any type of emergency. COMDISPLAN is normally activated when Australian Government assistance for emergency response or short-term recovery is requested or likely to be requested. COMDISPLAN has replaced AUSDISPLAN.
Compensation	The sum of money paid by government to an owner for stock that are destroyed and property that is compulsorily destroyed because of an emergency animal disease. <i>See also</i> Cost-sharing arrangements, Emergency Animal Disease Response Agreement
Consultative Committee on Emergency Animal Diseases	A committee of state and territory CVOs, representatives of the Australian Animal Health Laboratory (CSIRO) and the relevant industries, and chaired by the Australian CVO. The committee convenes and consults when there is an animal disease emergency due to the introduction of an emergency animal disease of livestock, or other serious epizootic of Australian origin.
Control area	A declared area in which the conditions applying are of lesser intensity than those in a restricted area (the limits of a control area and the conditions applying to it can be varied during an outbreak according to need).
Cost-sharing arrangements	Arrangements agreed between governments (national and states/territories) and livestock industries for sharing the costs of emergency animal disease responses. <i>See also</i> Compensation, Emergency Animal Disease Response Agreement <i>See also</i> Compensation, Emergency Animal Disease Response Agreement
Critical Incident Response Plan	A plan that details the role of the Australian Government agriculture department in an emergency and sets out how response operations will be conducted.
Dangerous contact animal	A susceptible animal that has been designated as being exposed to other infected animals or potentially infectious products following tracing and epidemiological investigation.
Dangerous contact premises	Premises that contain dangerous contact animals or other serious contacts.
Declared area	A defined tract of land that is subjected to disease control restrictions under emergency animal disease legislation. Types of declared areas include <i>restricted area, control area, infected premises, dangerous contact premises and suspect premises</i> .
Decontamination	Includes all stages of cleaning and disinfection.

Depopulation	The removal of a host population from a particular area to control or prevent the spread of disease.
Destroy (animals)	To slaughter animals humanely.
Disinfectant	A chemical used to destroy disease agents outside a living animal.
Disease agent	A general term for a transmissible organism or other factor that causes an infectious disease.
Disease Watch Hotline	24-hour freecall service for reporting suspected incidences of exotic diseases – 1800 675 888
Disinfectant	A chemical used to destroy disease agents outside a living animal.
Disinfection	The application, after thorough cleansing, of procedures intended to destroy the infectious or parasitic agents of animal diseases, including zoonoses; applies to premises, vehicles and different objects that may have been directly or indirectly contaminated.
Disposal	Sanitary removal of animal carcasses, animal products, materials and wastes by burial, burning or some other process so as to prevent the spread of disease.
Emergency animal disease	A disease that is (a) exotic to Australia or (b) a variant of an endemic disease or (c) a serious infectious disease of unknown or uncertain cause or (d) a severe outbreak of a known endemic disease, and that is considered to be of national significance with serious social or trade implications. <i>See also</i> Endemic animal disease, Exotic animal disease
Emergency Animal Disease Response Agreement	Agreement between the Australian and state/territory governments and livestock industries on the management of emergency animal disease responses. Provisions include funding mechanisms, the use of appropriately trained personnel and existing standards such as AUSVETPLAN. <i>See also</i> Compensation, Cost-sharing arrangements
Emergency Animal Disease Training Program	A program that provides education and training for livestock producers, veterinarians and other personnel in the Australian livestock industries in preparation for performing response roles in the event of a disease incursion.
Endemic animal disease	A disease affecting animals (which may include humans) that is known to occur in Australia. <i>See also</i> Emergency animal disease, Exotic animal disease
Enterprise	<i>See</i> Risk enterprise

Epidemiological investigation	An investigation to identify and qualify the risk factors associated with the disease. <i>See also</i> Veterinary investigation
Exotic animal disease	A disease affecting animals (which may include humans) that does not normally occur in Australia. <i>See also</i> Emergency animal disease, Endemic animal disease
Exotic fauna/feral animals	<i>See</i> Wild animals
Fomites	Inanimate objects (eg boots, clothing, equipment, instruments, vehicles, crates, packaging) that can carry an infectious disease agent and may spread the disease through mechanical transmission.
Forward command post	A field operations centre, subsidiary to a local disease control centre.
In-contact animals	Animals that have had close contact with infected animals, such as non-infected animals in the same group as infected animals.
Incubation period	The period that elapses between the introduction of the pathogen into the animal and the first clinical signs of the disease.
Index case	The first or original case of the disease to be diagnosed in a disease outbreak on the index property.
Index property	The property on which the first or original case (index case) in a disease outbreak is found to have occurred.
Infected premises	A defined area (which may be all or part of a property) in which an emergency disease exists, is believed to exist, or in which the infective agent of that emergency disease exists or is believed to exist. An infected premises is subject to quarantine served by notice and to eradication or control procedures.
International veterinary reserve	A memorandum of understanding between Canada, New Zealand, Australia, the United States, the United Kingdom and Ireland under which participants provide mutual support (through skilled and competent personnel) in the event of a disease emergency in one of the countries.
Local disease control centre	An emergency operations centre responsible for the command and control of field operations in a defined area.
Monitoring	Routine collection of data for assessing the health status of a population. <i>See also</i> Surveillance
Movement control	Restrictions placed on the movement of animals, people and other things to prevent the spread of disease.

National management group	A group established to direct and coordinate an animal disease emergency. Membership may include the chief executives of the Australian Government, state and territory agriculture departments, and representatives of the relevant livestock industry organisations.
National coordination centre	Centre responsible for the coordination of Australian Government, national and international communications during a disease emergency (part of the National Communications Network).
Native wildlife	See Wild animals
OIE Terrestrial Code	<i>OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code</i> . Reviewed annually at the OIE meeting in May and published on the internet at: http://www.oie.int/eng/normes/mcode/a_summry.htm
OIE Terrestrial Manual	<i>OIE Manual of Standards for Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals</i> . Describes standards for laboratory diagnostic tests and the production and control of biological products (principally vaccines). The current edition is published on the internet at: http://www.oie.int/eng/normes/mmanual/a_summry.htm
Operational procedures	Detailed instructions for carrying out specific disease control activities, such as disposal, destruction, decontamination and valuation.
Owner	Person responsible for a premises (includes an agent of the owner, such as a manager or other controlling officer).
Premises	A tract of land including its buildings, or a separate farm or facility that is maintained by a single set of services and personnel.
Prevalence	The proportion (or percentage) of animals in a particular population affected by a particular disease (or infection or positive antibody titre) at a given point in time.
Primary Industries Ministerial Council	The council of Australian national, state and territory, and New Zealand ministers of agriculture that sets Australian and New Zealand agricultural policy (formerly the Agriculture and Resource Management Council of Australia and New Zealand). <i>See also</i> Primary Industries Standing Committee
Primary Industries Standing Committee	The single standing committee that supports PIMC. Members are department heads/ chief executives of the Australian Government, New Zealand Government and Australian state and territory agencies responsible for agriculture, food, fibre, forestry, fisheries and aquaculture industries, production and rural adjustment policy issues. <i>See also</i> Primary Industries Ministerial Council

Quarantine	Legal restrictions imposed on a place or a tract of land by the serving of a notice limiting access or egress of specified animals, persons or things.
Restricted area	A relatively small declared area (compared to a control area) around an infected premises that is subject to intense surveillance and movement controls.
Risk enterprise	A defined livestock or related enterprise, which is potentially a major source of infection for many other premises. Includes intensive piggeries, feedlots, abattoirs, knackeries, saleyards, calf scales, milk factories, tanneries, skin sheds, game meat establishments, cold stores, AI centres, veterinary laboratories and hospitals, road and rail freight depots, showgrounds, field days, weighbridges, garbage depots.
Subcommittee on Emergency Animal Diseases	A subcommittee of the Animal Health Committee (AHC) established in 2005, and which reports through AHC and the Primary Industries Standing Committee to the Primary Industries Ministerial Council. <i>See also</i> Animal Health Committee, Primary Industries Ministerial Council, Primary Industries Standing Committee
Sensitivity	The proportion of truly positive units that are correctly identified as positive by a test. <i>See also</i> Specificity
Sentinel animal	Animal of known health status that is monitored to detect the presence of a specific disease agent.
Serotype	A subgroup of microorganisms identified by the antigens carried (as determined by a serology test).
Specificity	The proportion of truly negative units that are correctly identified as a negative by a test. <i>See also</i> Sensitivity
Stamping out	Disease eradication strategy based on the quarantine and slaughter of all susceptible animals that are infected or exposed to the disease.
State or territory disease control headquarters	The emergency operations centre that directs the disease control operations to be undertaken in that state or territory.
Surveillance	A systematic program of investigation designed to establish the presence, extent of, or absence of a disease, or of infection or contamination with the causative organism. It includes the examination of animals for clinical signs, antibodies or the causative organism.
Susceptible animals	Animals that can be infected with a particular disease

Suspect animal	<p>An animal that may have been exposed to an emergency disease such that its quarantine and intensive surveillance, but not pre-emptive slaughter, is warranted.</p> <p><i>or</i></p> <p>An animal not known to have been exposed to a disease agent but showing clinical signs requiring differential diagnosis.</p>
Suspect premises	<p>Temporary classification of premises containing suspect animals. After rapid resolution of the status of the suspect animal(s) contained on it, a suspect premises is reclassified either as an infected premises (and appropriate disease-control measures taken) or as free from disease.</p>
Technical Review Group (TRG)	<p>The Technical Review Group is a group of technical experts representing the Australian Government and each state and territory agriculture department, and the CSIRO. The group is chaired by AHA and reviews drafts of AUSVETPLAN manuals prepared by consultant writers or writing groups, resolves technical issues and sets priorities for AUSVETPLAN work.</p>
Tracing	<p>The process of locating animals, persons or other items that may be implicated in the spread of disease, so that appropriate action can be taken.</p>
Vaccination	<p>Inoculation of healthy individuals with weakened or attenuated strains of disease-causing agents to provide protection from disease.</p>
- swamp vaccination	<p>Widespread vaccination of a large proportion of susceptible animals.</p>
- ring vaccination	<p>Vaccination of susceptible animals around a focus of infection to provide a buffer against the spread of disease.</p>
Vaccine	<p>Modified strains of disease-causing agents that, when inoculated, stimulate an immune response and provide protection from disease.</p>
- inactivated	<p>A vaccine prepared from a virus that has been inactivated ('killed') by chemical or physical treatment.</p>
Vector	<p>A living organism (frequently an arthropod) that transmits an infectious agent from one host to another. A <i>biological</i> vector is one in which the infectious agent must develop or multiply before becoming infective to a recipient host. A <i>mechanical</i> vector is one that transmits an infectious agent from one host to another but is not essential to the life cycle of the agent.</p>
Veterinary investigation	<p>An investigation of the diagnosis, pathology and epidemiology of the disease.</p> <p><i>See also</i> Epidemiological investigation</p>

Wild animals

- native wildlife Animals that are indigenous to Australia and may be susceptible to emergency animal diseases (eg bats, dingoes, marsupials).
- feral animals Domestic animals that have become wild (eg cats, horses, pigs).
- exotic fauna Nondomestic animal species that are not indigenous to Australia (eg foxes).

Zoning

The process of defining disease-free and infected areas in accord with OIE guidelines, based on geopolitical boundaries and surveillance, in order to facilitate trade.

Zoonosis

A disease of animals that can be transmitted to humans.

Abbreviations

AAHL	Australian Animal Health Laboratory
AHA	Animal Health Australia
AHC	Animal Health Committee
ANEMIS	Animal Health Emergency Information System
AQIS	Australian Quarantine Inspection Service
AUSDISPLAN	Australian Disaster Plan
AUSVETPLAN	Australian Veterinary Emergency Plan
BA	Biosecurity Australia
CCEAD	Consultative Committee on Emergency Animal Diseases
COMDISPLAN	Commonwealth Disaster Response Plan
CSIRO	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation
CVO	chief veterinary officer
DAFF	Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (Australian Government)
DoHA	Department of Health and Ageing
EAD	emergency animal disease
EDSC	Exotic Disease Sub-Committee
EXANDIS	Exotic Animal Disease Preparedness Consultative Council
FCP	forward command post
LDCC	local disease control centre
NAHCG	National Animal Health Consultative Group
NCC	National Coordination Centre
NMG	national management group
OIE	World Organisation for Animal Health (formerly Office International des Epizooties)

PIMC	Primary Industries Ministerial Council
PISC	Primary Industries Standing Committee.
SCEAD	Subcommittee on Emergency Animal Diseases
SDCHQ	state or territory disease control headquarters
TFAP	Tuberculosis Freedom Assurance Program
TRG	Technical Review Group

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Spradbery PB (2002). *A Manual for the Diagnosis of Screw-Worm Fly*, Edition 2, Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry – Australia, Canberra.

United States Animal Health Association (1998). Gray Book

http://www.vet.uga.edu/vpp/gray_book02/fad/index.php

United Kingdom Department of EFRA (2005). Foot and mouth disease - Ageing of Lesions

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/diseases/fmd/pdf/ageing-lesions.pdf>

OIE documents

OIE (World Organisation for Animal Health). *OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code*.

Reviewed annually at the OIE meeting in May and published on the internet at:

http://www.oie.int/eng/normes/mcode/a_summry.htm

OIE (World Organisation for Animal Health). *OIE Manual of Standards for Diagnostic*

Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals. Describes standards for laboratory diagnostic tests and the production and control of biological products (principally vaccines). The current edition is published on the internet at:

http://www.oie.int/eng/normes/mmanual/a_summry.htm

Slides and videos

Recognising Exotic Livestock Diseases Series by CSIRO (AAHL), 1991-93.

Useful sources of information

AUSVETPLAN documents:

https://www.animalhealthaustralia.com.au/programs/eadp/ausvetplan_home.cfm

AHA website:

<https://www.animalhealthaustralia.com.au/programs/eadp/eadra.cfm>

AHA training information:

https://www.animalhealthaustralia.com.au/training/ead_training.cfm